



# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

University of Alaska Anchorage  
Report on Academic Program Review  
Report to the UA Board of Regents — August 12, 2019

## BOR Chapter 10.06 - Academic Program Review

### Academic Program Review at UAA

Academic Program Review at UAA aligns with NWCCU institutional accreditation standards, which emphasize planning, assessing effectiveness, and making improvements to the institution and its programs and services. The process complies with University Regulation 10.06.010.B and examines: mission and alignment; centrality of mission and supporting role; coordination across campuses; program demand, efficiency, and productivity; and program quality and improvement. As part of the UAA process, programs must include an action plan for moving forward. Programs with specialized accreditation document how the specialized accreditation self-study and peer-review process addresses the UAA requirements for program review, and they submit related documentation from the most recent specialized accreditation review and reporting.

In the next academic year, all programs report on progress on the recommendations and on their action plan.

The UAA process includes review at the level of the faculty, dean/director and provost.

### Academic Program Review in AY19

In AY19 UAA conducted Program Reviews for 27 programs, resulting in the following decisions: 18 programs will be continued, and 9 programs will undergo continued review. All decision letters included the disclaimer: *The following decision is subject to change, depending on the university's budget and decisions about the university's structure moving forward.*

Please see the attached for an accounting of the specific programs and decisions.

### Summary of AY19 Academic Program Review Outcomes:

Decision	Number of Programs
Enhancement	0
Continuation	18
Revision	0
Continued Review	9
Suspension	0
Deletion	0

**Reviews Scheduled in Current Seven-Year Cycle:** Similar degrees within departments are reviewed together. The number of programs undergoing review each year will be balanced as UAA moves through the seven-year cycle.

	AY20	AY21	AY22	AY23	AY24	AY25	AY26	Total
Reviews Scheduled	14	26	13	13	19	5	3	93
Percent of Total	15%	28%	14%	14%	20%	5%	3%	100%

## Detailed Listing of AY19 UAA Academic Program Review Results

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CAS	AA General Program	1981	1,364	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Important program for a large number of students.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Course level refinements such as shared and scaffolded assignments, course sequencing, and prerequisites; implement a reverse transfer program; formally initiate an “AA on the Way” program; dedicate advising for AA students; ensure consistency of information across campuses; identify data needs; create an online AA to be cooperatively delivered over four semesters.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY25.</p>
CAS	BA History	1975*	164	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Exemplary department providing high-quality instruction using high impact practices.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Work with Institutional Research (IR) and the Vice Provost for Student Success to analyze credit hours to degree and course pass rates and identify focused student success interventions.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY26.</p>
CAS	BA/BS Mathematics	1975*	67	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Exemplary department that is reflective, open to change and dedicated to student success.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Develop more assignments intentionally tied to program student learning outcomes; improve student use of advising; recruit more students into the degree; look more deeply at course pass rates, particularly in gateway courses; further integrate undergraduate research opportunities; build on faculty efforts to develop and use open educational resources.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY26.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CAS	PBCT Speech-Language Pathology	2014	23	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> New program builds on years of success preparing students for graduate study through an agreement with East Carolina University creating a path to an MS, required for practice in the field.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Move the program to the College of Health to build on ties with health programs; focus on recruitment and tracking post-graduation success.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> AY21.</p>
CBPP	AAS Business Computer Information Systems	1991	16	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program has low enrollment, although there is high demand for jobs requiring the knowledge and skills provided within the program.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Revise curriculum and assessment plan using input from employers; develop a timeline for reorganizing the advisory board, outreach and recruitment activities, and cooperation across UAA; work with the Vice Provost for Student Success to determine interventions to help with retention and graduation.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
CBPP	AAS General Business, AAS Small Business Administration	1991	GB: 83 SBA: 94	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Merge programs by suspending admissions to AAS Small Business Administration and integrating content into the AAS General Business, resulting in a single path toward earning an AAS in the business field. Suspension process is complete, and General Business will be taught at all UAA campuses.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Use IR data to address current program demand, efficiency, and productivity; define expectations for Quality Matters certification of courses; examine issues of coordination, enrollment trends and scheduling across campuses, including delivery method; analyze the number of students moving from the AAS to a baccalaureate degree and develop an action plan.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY25.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CoEng	AAS Geomatics	1989	5	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program is commended for developing a distance/face-to-face hybrid model, creating a clear path into the BS, redesigning the curriculum in consultation with its Advisory Board, and garnering and sustaining strong community interest and support.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Explore the utility of maintaining the AAS degree, and consider other options to prepare students for licensure such as certificates and stackable credentials; consider how to promote the program to other four-year programs; report on recruitment and retention plans; consult with the Vice Provost for Student Success on strategies to improve the graduation rate.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
CoEng	BS Geomatics	1989	67	Continuation	<p>Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET extended specialized accreditation in 2017, following a comprehensive self-study and site visit.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Focus on recruitment and retention to identify ways to access strong demand in the market; work with the Vice Provost for Student Success on pathways into the program and strategies for improving retention rates; monitor staffing level, to ensure the program continues to meet ABET's requirements.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY24.</p>
CoEng	BS Mechanical Engineering	2005: BS Engineering emphasis 2015: Separate BS program	111	Continuation	<p>Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET extended specialized accreditation in 2017, following a comprehensive self-study and site visit.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Focus on recruitment and retention; work with the Vice Provost for Student Success on pathways into the program and strategies for retention; monitor program's staffing level, to ensure the program continues to meet ABET's requirements.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY24.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CoEng	MS Mechanical Engineering	2013	2	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program is commended for collaborations with other disciplines and sharing courses with the Mechanical Engineering department at UAF. Faculty expectations are high, and students are producing publishable work.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Focus on recruitment, particularly through the accelerated master's option; schedule courses at times that meet students' needs, such as evenings and weekends; continue to explore opportunities for collaboration, particularly with UAF; engage the community to gauge and meet employers' needs and expectations of program graduates and to recruit working professionals into the program.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY24.</p>
COH	AAS Diagnostic Medical Sonography	2012	17	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Rigorous program with a faculty fully committed to students and their success.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Revise program to reduce number of requirements to meet the BOR maximum allowed credits; work with Limited Radiography and Radiologic Technology programs and their partners at other MAUs and community campuses to create a consolidated plan for imaging education in Alaska that responds to market demand and student needs.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
COH	UC/AAS/BA/PBCT Legal Studies	2012 (replaced UC Paralegal Studies approved 1989)	UC: 1 AAS: 12 BA: 40 PBCT: 13	Continuation	<p>American Bar Association extended approval in 2018, following a comprehensive self-study and site visit.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Ensure students have appropriate technology skills for success in law-related occupations; investigate how best to configure the Legal Nurse Consultant Paralegal UC.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY25.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
COH	OEC Limited Radiography	2007	8	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program makes an important contribution to developing a broadly trained health care workforce, particularly in rural Alaska.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Work with Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Radiologic Technology programs and their partners at other MAUs and community campuses to create a consolidated plan for imaging education in Alaska that responds to market demand and student needs.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
COH	AAS Paramedical Technology	2005	84	Continuation	<p>Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) continued specialized accreditation in 2019 for the Mat-Su College delivery site, following a comprehensive self-study and site visit. CAAHEP self-study seeking initial accreditation for Kenai Peninsula College delivery site submitted in April 2019, with site visit scheduled in Sept/Oct 2019.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Coordinate handbook revisions with the College of Health Dean's Office and the Office of Academic Affairs; both sites need to attend to new requirements for minimum competencies, and the KPC site needs to continue to address student retention.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY25.</p>
COH	OEC Pharmacy Technology	2007	43	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Poised to make an important contribution to the BOR goal of doubling the number of health graduates by 2025, with strong ties to the community.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> In 2020, a Pharmacy Technician Certification-Board-recognized program will be required to sit for the national exam, and the program must apply to be recognized. Update official curriculum; address areas of concern identified through Quality Matters review of the distance offerings; conduct a cost-benefit analysis and explore strategies for improving retention with the Vice Provost for Student Success.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
COH	OEC Phlebotomist	2005	46	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program meets much-needed health occupation, with an online option providing opportunities for students throughout the state.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Prepare an analysis and proposal to address the decline in student demand and determine a path forward, through enhanced recruitment or a program transformation, to better align with student and industry demand and need.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY26.</p>
COH	AAS Radiologic Technology	2002	90	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program makes an important contribution to developing a broadly trained health care workforce.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Work with Diagnostic Medical Sonography and Limited Radiography programs and their partners at other MAUs and community campuses to create a consolidated plan for imaging education in Alaska that responds to market demand and student needs.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
CTC	AAS Air Traffic Control	1974*	88	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Changes in FAA hiring policy and a minor in Air Traffic Control should bring new students to the program.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Develop a plan for training international controllers; investigate providing summer courses for air traffic control students; implement professional development opportunities for industry; promote the new flight dispatch classes and the Air Traffic Control minor.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>
CTC	BS Applied Technologies Leadership	1989	9	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Degree presents a unique and valuable option for those who have 45 or more vocational or technical credits and desire a bachelor's degree in an adult-friendly program.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Return to the original name BS Technology and revise the curriculum accordingly; develop an internship program; create additional industry linkages; create a core faculty team to support the program. Name change and revised curriculum due October 15, 2019.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> AY21.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CTC	AAS Aviation Administration	1974*	29	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program is commended for curriculum revisions to align with BS Aviation Technology and for transitioning courses to online delivery to decrease the average number of credits for completers.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Assist students to finalize a new student chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives; increase business and industry involvement; develop student internship opportunities; continue to explore viability of transitioning to online delivery of courses.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>
CTC	UC/AAS Aviation Maintenance Technology	UCs: 2004 AAS: 1974*	UCs: 122 AAS: 29	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program has taken advantage of opportunities to address previous concerns via faculty hires, TVEP funding to develop online course modules, and promotional opportunities.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Increase recruitment and retention efforts; continue to engage and collaborate with secondary schools across the state; support the full development of the online course modules for the Alaska Air Carriers Association, and develop a strategy to provide these courses as non-credit as well as for-credit; explore opportunities for funding partnerships with aviation companies.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>
CTC	BS Aviation Technology	2001	136	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program is commended for efforts to increase student credit hours and graduation, and to build industry partnerships to provide student opportunities.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Monitor semester course enrollment, particularly in upper division courses; employ strategies for efficient delivery and student-focused scheduling of courses; develop internship course; complete final stage of curriculum revision; continue to pursue a student chapter of the American Association of Airport Executives; explore ways to allow greater access to flight time.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CTC	AAS Computer and Networking Technology, AAS Computer Systems Technology, OEC Cisco-Certified Network Associate	CNT: 2001 CST: 2003 CCNA: 2005	CNT: 116 CST: 27 CCNA: 32	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Merge the two AAS programs into one to reduce confusion among students, eliminate programmatic redundancy, and provide greater efficiencies.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Submit catalog changes that consolidate the two degrees under the AAS Computer Systems Technology; following its approval through Faculty Senate, request to suspend admissions to the AAS Computer Networking Technology. Work in partnership with the Office of Academic Affairs, Community and Technical College and the College of Engineering to explore and expand articulated credit for secondary schools.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>
CTC	OEC Millwright	2015	3	Continued Review	<p><b>Findings:</b> Unique and important program responding to employer needs.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Move quickly to find internal or external funding such as grants and TVEP for electrical and ventilation facility repairs; work with business and industry to integrate web cams at jobsites to increase student exposure to specialized equipment in remote locations; focus on program promotion and recruitment; deploy employer and graduate surveys to ensure program currency.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim report due March 1, 2020. Next review AY21.</p>
CTC	AAS/BS Occupational Safety and Health	AAS: 2001 BS: 2017	AAS: 49 BS: New	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Program is commended for developing an AAS that articulates into the BS, and for ongoing collaboration across campuses using eLearning.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Focus on program promotion and recruitment; continue to learn about the requirements for ABET accreditation to lay the groundwork for a successful future application; monitor staffing sufficiency.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>

College	Program	Initiation Year	Graduates in Last Five Years (AY14-AY18)	Decision Type	Explanation and Date of Next Review
CTC	AAS Professional Piloting	1973	11	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Piloting profession continues to be high-demand in Alaska, and the program is working hard to meet the demand.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Continue to track graduation rates and examine which strategies are working and which might need adjusting; monitor semester course enrollment, particularly in upper division courses; continue to employ strategies that ensure efficient delivery and student-focused scheduling of courses; explore developing an Occupational Endorsement Certificate to allow students to complete a credential, before leaving for the workforce; administer an exit survey of these students and use the data to identify other solutions; research other opportunities such as internships and apprenticeships; identify courses with low or decreasing course pass rates and work with the Vice Provost for Student Success to determine possible causes and solutions.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim progress report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>
CTC	OEC Advanced Welding, OEC Nondestructive Testing, OEC Welding, UC Welding Technology, UC Welding, AAS Welding and Nondestructive Testing Technology, AAS Technology	OECs: 2013 UC Weld Tech: 1984* UC Welding: 2006 AAS W&NT: 2000 AAS Tech: 2003	OECs: 131 UC Weld Tech: 15 UC Welding: 1 AAS W&NT: 46 AAS Tech: 9	Continuation	<p><b>Findings:</b> Faculty are commended for their work to align courses and programs to reduce confusion and provide clear pathways for students.</p> <p><b>Improvement Plan:</b> Curricular and catalog changes toward alignment; identify and develop strategies to serve students across UAA campuses, as well as UA universities, by providing AWS certifications; continue recruitment efforts with a focus on K-12 partnerships, including the articulation of secondary courses to university credits.</p> <p><b>Next Review:</b> Interim report due March 1, 2020. Unless otherwise noted at that time, next review AY23.</p>

\*Approval date estimated by first appearance in a Catalog